

56TH MEETING
OF THE
MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

Thursday, May 13, 2004
Minutes

Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioners present: Chase, Ginsburg, Lucht, Malouf, Moffit, Nicolay, Risher, and Salamon

ITEM 1.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Robert Nicolay made a motion to approve the Minutes of the April meeting of the Commission, which was seconded by Commissioner Larry Ginsburg, and unanimously approved.

ITEM 2.

Update on Commission Activities

- Data Systems and Analysis
- Health Resources
- Performance and Benefits

Chairman Wilson asked if the Deputy Directors had information to add to the written *Update*. Enrique Martinez-Vidal, Deputy Director of Performance and Benefits, announced that designation of the Maryland Patient Safety Center had been awarded jointly to the Maryland Hospital Association and the Delmarva Foundation for Medical Care. At Commissioner Stephen J. Salamon's request, Ben Steffen, Deputy Director of Data Systems and Analysis, described the Medical Care Data Base. Copies of the *Update* were available on the documents table and on the Commission's website at: <http://www.mhcc.state.md.us/mhccinfo/cmsnmtgs/updates/>.

ITEM 3.

CERTIFICATE OF NEED: Calvert Memorial Hospital – Capital Renovation Project, Docket No. 03-04-2125

Chairman Wilson announced that Pat Cameron, Chief, Acute & Ambulatory Care Services, would present an application from Calvert Memorial Hospital. Ms. Cameron said that Calvert Memorial proposed to expand its inpatient bed capacity by twenty beds, including general medical-surgical beds and critical care beds, increase the number of monitored beds, expand its Emergency Department and laboratory, and make a number of building improvements through a combination of new construction and renovation of existing space. The total cost of this project is \$32,674,427. Ms. Cameron introduced James Zinnis, Chief Executive Officer of Calvert Memorial. Staff recommended that the Commission approve the project. Vice Chairman

Malouf made a motion that the Commission approve the Certificate of Need, which was seconded by Commissioner Walter Chase, and unanimously approved.

ACTION: CERTIFICATE OF NEED: Calvert Memorial Hospital – Capital Renovation Project, Docket No. 03-04-2125 is hereby APPROVED.

ITEM 4.

PRESENTATION: *Colonoscopy Screening in Maryland*

Chairman Wilson said that in 2000, the Center for Cancer Surveillance and Control (CCSC) was given Cigarette Restitution Funds to promote increased awareness of screening and treatment of colorectal cancer. One objective of the program has been to increase colon cancer screening in the over 50 population. For the past year, the Maryland Health Care Commission and the CCSC have used data from the Commission's Medical Care Data Base to assess growth in colon cancer screening services. Dr. Diane Dwyer, Medical Director for the Center for Cancer Surveillance and Control at DHMH and Rebecca Goldblatt, Health Policy Analyst, presented a summary of the results of this work. Some of the findings included that the number of colonoscopies in Maryland has approximately doubled between 1999 and 2002, while sigmoidoscopies have declined and gastroscopies are stable and that rates of colon cancer have been stable in Maryland, in spite of an increase in colonoscopies, based on 2001 data. Dr. Dwyer expects that over the next ten years we will begin to see a trend in the reduction of cancer rates due to colonoscopy. Chairman Wilson thanked Dr. Dwyer for her presentation.

ITEM 5.

PRESENTATION: Maryland's Small Group Health Insurance Market, *Summary of Carrier Experience – 2003*

Chairman Wilson announced that this was the beginning of the annual review of the Comprehensive Standard Health Benefit Plan (CSHBP) with the report on the financial survey of carriers. Enrique Martinez-Vidal presented the findings of the survey. Mr. Martinez-Vidal said that this report contains a summary of carrier experience for the calendar year that ended December 31, 2003 including: the number of employer groups insured; the number of lives covered; average cost per employee; loss ratios; number of participating carriers; average covered lives per policy; and the impact of riders on the average cost of the Standard Plan. As a result of the enactment of Chapter 93 of the Laws of Maryland 2003 (SB 477), the Commission now is responsible for evaluating the cost of the Comprehensive Standard Health Benefit Plan (CSHBP) based on a 10-percent affordability cap. Following Commissioner discussion, staff will prepare whatever comparisons are possible between Maryland and other states with regard to certain aspects of the insurance market.

ITEM 6.

Hearing and Meeting Schedule

Chairman Wilson announced that the next meeting of the Commission will be June 15, 2004 at 4160 Patterson Avenue, Room 100, in Baltimore, Maryland at 1:00 p.m.

ITEM 7.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m. upon motion of Commissioner Salamon, which was seconded by Commissioner Jeffrey Lucht and unanimously approved by the Commissioners.